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## INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS PANEL

## WEEKLY SUMMARY NO. 5

For week ending 15 June 1948

Cease fire effects in Palestine. While it was too much to expect all hostilities in the Holy Land to subside immediately at the exact moment set for the cease fire, they did simmer down and finally cease. The sensitive question of the food supply line between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem was resolved by eleventh hour Israeli consent to the establishment of a UN convoy-checking post at Bab el Wad.

Mediator Bernadotte, meanwhile, is setting up an organization of observers, based in Cairo, to enforce the cease fire terms, at the same time selecting Rhodes as headquarters for his mediatory activity. Four weeks respite from fighting leaves Bernadotte little time in which to deal with the fundamental problem of arranging a modus vivendi between Arab and Jew. Factors favoring him are the accomplished fact that fighting had, for the moment, ended in a virtual stalemate and inertia might operate against resumption of hostilities. The unresolvable issues of immigration and Israeli statehood remain as persistent negative factors.

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USSR seeks entry into Palestine. The Security Council in its 29 May resolution instructed Bernadotte, together with the Truce Commission, to supervise observance of the cease fire and decided they should be given sufficient military observers. The USSR, anxious to send its own observers to Palestine, is presently questioning the unilateral action of Bernadotte in having selected observers from only the Truce Commission states and Sweden. Clearly the USSR has the laboring oar in upsetting action already taken by the Mediator and, when the matter comes to a vote, will probably receive no support outside of the Ukraine.

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Indonesian dispute returns to SC. Highlight of the

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Republic's complaint to the SC which returned the Indonesian dispute to that body last week was an accusation of Dutch violation of Renville Agreement principles by the suppression of Republican elements in West Java and Madura. Republican representative Palar backed his complaints with facts adduced by the SC Good Offices Committee (GOC). The Dutch disputed the accusations and warned that referring such "incidental" questions to the SC would prove an obstacle to the "successful" negotiations now in progress.

Both parties have contributed their share toward hindering the GOC. The Dutch have stated that no solution is possible unless the Republic ceases to dabble in foreign affairs. This problem recently arose over Soviet recognition of the Republic, stemming, evidently, from conversations undertaken prior to signing the Renville Agreement. The Republicans, on the other hand, steadfastly maintain that the Dutch are endeavoring to squeeze them completely out of the USI picture in favor of pro-Netherlands factions which they can control. This contention is partially upheld by reports on the Bandoeng Conference of non-Republicans and the Dutch proposed high Union court designed to perpetuate Netherlands economic control at the expense of Republican political and economic aspirations.

The adamant attitude of Dutch delegate Vredenburg has further complicated matters for the GOC and has reached the point where, unless his tactics change, the US will request his replacement by a more tractable commissioner.

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Sobolev reputed chief USSR agent in UN. UN Secretary General Trygve Lie reportedly believes that his Assistant in charge of Security Council affairs, Arkady Sobolev, enjoys more standing and influence with the Kremlin than the official USSR delegate Andrei Gromyko. Lie also thinks Gromyko's recall was a demotion attributable perhaps to minor differences with Foreign Minister Molotov.

Sobolev is reported to be a careful, methodical administrator. Formerly an electrical and mechanical engineer, he served the Soviet Foreign Office at home, in London, at Dumbarton Oaks and in San Francisco and later as political adviser to Marshal Zhukov. His UN duties include assistance to the SC and such subsidiaries as the Commissions on Atomic Energy and Conventional

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Armaments. Secretariat members of all the major commissions established by the SC in Greece, Indonesia, Korea and other trouble spots of the world have been drawn from personnel under his control. Although it does not follow that all the members of his staff are Communists, such a post in the hands of a trained Soviet official can be useful to the USSR. For example: last year in Greece, Secretariat sabotage and obstructionism were rampant on the Balkan Investigating Commission and are currently troubling the Secretariat of the UN Temporary Commission on Korea which is officially boycotted by the USSR.

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Proposal for UN Armed Guard. Prompted by the loss of UN prestige resulting from its inability to provide needed military protection to its Commissions operating in such disturbed areas as Palestine and Korea, the Secretariat has worked out a plan for a UN Armed Guard as announced by Syg Lie at Harvard last week.

The plan calls for 600-1000 men, equipped with side arms and provided with communication and transportation facilities, to protect commissioners and quarters housing UN personnel. Recently the Palestine Commission was excluded from Palestine for lack of force sufficient to assure its protection. In Korea, armed guards at the polls would have been useful during the recent turbulent elections.

Both the US UN delegation and the US delegate to the Military Staff Committee (MSC) regard the entire plan as impractical since there is no satisfactory line of demarcation between the proposed Guard and the regular UN forces now under discussion in the MSC. In their view a 200-400 man group is considered sufficient.

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PCIRO aids Czech refugees in Germany. The plight of the Czech refugees who fled to Germany following the Communist coup in Czechoslovakia has been alleviated by a recent decision of the Preparatory Commission of the International Refugee Organization (PCIRO) to aid them in the camps where they are now living and possibly to admit some, on a hardship basis, to the IRO assembly centers. Until now, PCIRO has withheld

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assistance from this group under an agreement with US Zonal authorities which precluded IRO aid to persons entering the Zone after 21 April 1947. PCIRO has also obtained the approval of the Italian Government for the transfer of 2000 Czechs to Italy in exchange for admission into the US Zone of 900 DP's ineligible for resettlement. The Italian Government is anxious to be rid of all so-called Soviet DP's who might be claimed by the USSR as war criminals or traitors under the Italian peace treaty.

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Prospects for ILO Conference. The 31st General Session of the International Labor Organization (ILO) opening in San Francisco on 17 June, may provide a forum for the airing of East-West differences on a number of pivotal issues. The stated aim of the Conference is to increase the standardization of workers' rights throughout the world. To this end it will consider draft conventions requiring member governments to set up national employment services, write fair wage clauses into public contracts and guarantee freedom of association and the right of workers and employers to organize. The discussion on freedom of association can be expected to draw attacks from the Czech and Polish delegations on the alleged suppression of trade union liberties in Greece. Countercharges of similar suppression may be directed at the Czech delegation which will act as chief spokesman for the Soviet-bloc (the USSR is not an ILO member and Yugoslavia is not attending this session). Another issue facing the Conference is what relationship the ILO should assume toward its rival, the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU).

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Unsatisfactory publicity on ICEF aid to Satellites. Although the International Children's Emergency Fund (ICEF) extends extremely helpful aid to the undernourished children of the Satellite states, these countries, with the exception of Poland, carefully avoid giving any publicity to the fact that such aid comes from a UN agency or that one of the main contributors is the US. The Satellite Governments, who receive some 60 per cent of all ICEF aid, are trying, as they did with UNRRA, to give the impression that it is the Government itself, or the USSR, from whom all such blessings flow. Despite lack of publicity, however, the two ICEF criteria of non-political distribution and proper accounting are being

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followed as far as the small ICEF staffs in the area can determine.

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Results of third ECAFE session. The recent meeting of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) provided another demonstration of the desire of the "underdeveloped" Far Eastern nations to secure US and international aid in their industrialization. A resolution on Japan's contribution to the reconstruction and development of the region, including a Chinese proposal that Japanese economic planning be adjusted to the requirements of far eastern countries, was passed by a 6-5 vote, despite US objections that this problem affected all UN nations, not just those on ECAFE. The controversial question of direct or Netherland's-sponsored admission for the Republic of Indonesia was again postponed.

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Possible Soviet propaganda offensive in UN. It is rumored that the USSR may add an item on "non-aggression" to the agenda of the next General Assembly. This would enable the USSR to raise the question of economic as well as political aggression, in a propaganda maneuver similar to its "warmongering" resolution last fall. It might be the first step in a propaganda broadside against ERP and US overseas aid.

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